

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR _____ COUNTY

<p>_____ Petitioner, vs _____ Respondent.</p>	<p>Case No: _____</p> <p>INFORMAL FAMILY LAW TRIAL WAIVER AND SELECTION FORM</p>
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Each party wishing to proceed as an Informal Family Law Trial must complete and file this form at or prior to the Civil Trial Setting Conference. Failure to file this required form may result in the case not being scheduled for trial or proceeding as a traditional trial.

The parties to a family law case must choose how they want the trial to be conducted. There are two options:

- (1) A traditional trial, which means that both parties are allowed to call witnesses and to cross-examine the witnesses appearing on behalf of the other party and the rules of evidence will apply. If either party chooses a traditional trial, then the case will be set for a traditional trial.
- (2) An informal family law trial, which will restrict the ability of both parties to present witnesses and the rules of evidence will not apply. An informal family law trial only will be held if both parties make that choice.

INFORMAL FAMILY LAW TRIAL

(Initials) I elect to proceed to trial under the Informal Family Law Trial Pilot Program.

I agree to waive the normal question and answer manner of trial, and I agree the court may ask me questions about the case.

I agree to waive the rules of evidence in this informal family law trial. Therefore:

- Either party can submit any document or other evidence he or she wishes into the record, subject to limitations on numbers of witnesses, affidavits, and expert witness reports; and
- Either party can tell the court anything he or she feels is relevant, subject to the trial judge's approval.

I understand the following:

- My participation in this informal family law trial process is strictly voluntary, and no one can force me to agree to this process; and
- The court will determine what weight will be given to documents, physical evidence, and testimony that is entered as evidence during the informal family law trial process.

I am confident that I understand the informal family law trial process.

I have not been threatened or promised anything for agreeing to this informal family law trial process.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney's signature (if applicable)

Party's signature

Attorney's name (if applicable)

Printed name